

IMPORTANT INFORMATION.

SURFACE FINISH-----MAINTAINANCE SHEETS

Timbers vary in their durability and so it is essential to protect them with the correct surface coating. We have invested heavily in a semi automatic paint line which correctly applies the initial preservative and base coats. We then apply end grain and joint sealer before the manual application of two spray applied top coats to the required thickness. This is all according to the correct working practises as laid down by our paint supplier Teknos.

There is no substitute for correct site practise, however it is important that any areas suffering damage are repaired and sealed to prevent moisture ingress, and we can usually supply small amounts of touch-up paint for this purpose. The coatings are micro porous which means that moisture can both enter and leave through the surface in accordance with the relative humidity, however if through damage or bad working practises, the moisture content of the timber exceeds 20%, then it is likely the surface coating will fail. So ensure that on arrival on site, items are stored in a dry place until such time as installation takes place and as far as is possible, protect the items during the build from excessive moisture or damage particularly from the harling process.

It is possible during the early days after delivery, that water marks may appear on the surface finish. These will disappear once the item dries but can reappear again if it gets wet. This is quite normal and will stop once the surface coating has fully cured, which can vary depending on the season from a day or two to a longer period during colder months. The main thing is not to rub these areas whilst wet but leave completely alone to dry.

Many factors affect the long term performance of a surface coating. Generally speaking a solid colour will last longer than a stain, and a dark stain will outlast a light one. It is also the case that one elevation of a building may deteriorate more quickly than another. What is important is not to allow the surface to reach a condition where it no longer protects the wood. So once the lower horizontal areas start to show signs of fading, it is time to re-coat. This can be as little as two years for a light stain in an exposed location to ten or even more years for a solid colour in a sheltered area. An annual clean with a very mild detergent to remove any airborne contaminants can extend the working life of the finish.

Providing the finish has not worn through to bare wood, a wash followed by a very light sand, is all the surface preparation that is required. Two brush coats of the correct Teknos product will then return the surface to its original condition. Teknos materials are available either from us or Teknos Scotland Ltd, Livingston, EH54 5DL. 01506 436222.

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